

GA, a lady by the name of Dr. Betty Siegel announced at the end of that commencement her retirement as president of Kennesaw State University after 25 years of service.

One might think in listening to that, well, that is a nice accomplishment, but is that so significant? I will talk for a minute about how significant this woman's life and her contributions have been.

Twenty-five years ago there were not many women presidents of any colleges or universities in the United States of America. In fact, Betty Siegel became the first president of a public university in the history of the university system of Georgia. She took the leadership of a small, urban campus, nonresidential, known as Kennesaw State College, with students numbering 4,000, handing out a handful of degrees, most all to computer learners.

As Dr. Siegel announced her retirement 2 weeks ago, she leaves a university with 18,000 students, third only to the University of Georgia and Georgia State University in population in our State, granting multiple degrees and a forerunner in our State in nursing, in education, in family business, in leadership, and in ethics.

Betty Siegel graduated from Wake Forest with an undergraduate degree and went to the University of North Carolina for her master's and doctorate from Florida State. She taught, she became a dean, throughout the southeastern United States. But when she was tapped, it was not only the right person for the time, it was the best decision possible. She broke the glass ceiling for women presidents at universities and colleges in Georgia because now we have many. She was the forerunner.

She built an urban university that was nonresidential and commuter into a combination commuter and residential university of renown and respect all over the United States.

While she did it, she did just a few other things. She got appointed to five corporate boards because of her contribution, her intellect, her knowledge, and her breadth and depth. She became president of a Chamber of Commerce. How many times have you heard of a college president or university president going on to be the president of a local community Chamber of Commerce? This happens to be the second largest Chamber of Commerce in the State of Georgia. But that is how remarkable Betty Siegel is.

I also mentioned in my remarks earlier that Kennesaw was the leader in leadership and ethics. They are because Betty Siegel found a way, through corporate and private donations, to endow a chair and build a school committed to leadership in ethics, in business, and in public life.

Through her commitment to understand the strength of small business and the fact that it is the heart of American employment, she founded, in our State, at her university, a division

of family business, second to none, that today is the resource for families who try to make those transitions from one generation to the next, to make the transition from small business to medium-sized business to large business, or to seek the guidance that is so unique for small family businesses. And Kennesaw State University is that institution.

But I want to tell you something about Dr. Betty Siegel.

Retirement is not quite the appropriate announcement because she has never retired from her commitment in her life to young people and to their education, and she will not now. Because when asked, after her announcement—within minutes—well, what are you going to do? She said: I am going to teach. I am going to work with young people. I am going to try to make their lives better.

After making that announcement, she spent the next week overnight in a dorm with students, asking how she could advise the next president to make the services of Kennesaw State University even better for the students who will enter in the fall of 2005 and go on to 2006.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure and it is a privilege to recognize on the Senate floor the contributions of Dr. Betty Siegel to the children of Georgia, her contributions to higher education, the ceiling she broke for women in academics in our State, and, most importantly, all of her continuing capacity to helping and teaching our young people.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST TRAVIS ANDERSON

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to take a moment to remember one of our fallen heroes, a young man from my home State and my native San Luis Valley, SPC Travis Anderson.

Specialist Anderson was killed in Iraq on May 13, 2005. He was 28 years old and a native of Hooper, CO, a small town of 123 not much different from where I grew up in the San Luis Valley.

A terrorist car bomb struck his HumVee, killing him and wounding several fellow soldiers in the vehicle with him. All of us were fortunate to be blessed by his life and we are all saddened by his loss. He exemplified courage, discipline and patriotism, some of the finest qualities that we prize in Colorado and across this Nation.

Specialist Anderson—"Loopie" to his family and friends and "Cowboy" to his fellow soldiers in Bravo Company, 3rd Infantry Division—was the kind of man that makes all of Colorado proud.

His family and friends remember that Travis was a rambunctious youngster. He went on to work as a farmer and ranch hand in Montana and Nevada. He worked hard to earn his high school diploma and even defeated the hantavirus, which at one point reduced him to a mere 100 pounds.

But after those horrible hours on 9/11, Specialist Anderson heard a higher

calling, one above his own self interest, and he enlisted in the Army at 26. In the Army, he flourished into a man of discipline and initiative.

He had the admiration and respect of his fellow soldiers and superiors. "Sometimes I wish we had a whole platoon of him," said SSG Jeremy Schultz, who served with Specialist Anderson in Iraq. Don't we all; don't we all.

Specialist Anderson of the Army's 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division was training with the Special Forces when he was killed earlier this month. He was awarded the Bronze Star posthumously. He came from humble beginnings and aspired to quiet greatness with an even greater heart.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "Every area of trouble gives out a ray of hope, and the one unchangeable certainty is that nothing is certain or unchangeable." SPC Travis Anderson exemplified this in his mission of service to his nation. He will be missed by all those around him and he and his family will remain in our prayers. And to his family and friends, I say, on behalf of a grateful nation: thank you for sharing Travis with us.

MEMORIAL DAY 2005

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the significance of Memorial Day and to remember the Americans it commemorates. In just a few days, we will come together as a Nation to pay tribute to the courageous men and women who fought and died for our country. Too often we take for granted the freedoms we, as Americans, enjoy, too often we forget those who gave their lives to secure this liberty.

America has honored its fallen soldiers with a Memorial Day, sometimes called Decoration Day, since the Civil War. Though we are grateful to these heroes each and every day, it was recognized that we should set aside 1 day in particular, the last Monday in May, to be especially mindful of the brave soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who paid the ultimate price for their fellow citizens.

During a time when we continue to lose more of our friends, family and neighbors in combat overseas, I am especially mindful of the sacrifices made by our men and women in the military. I served in World War II, and I have seen firsthand the bravery and selflessness that is a common thread in our military personnel. Though I was lucky enough to return home, not a day passes when I do not think of my comrades who were not as fortunate, and I am eternally grateful to them.

On this earnest occasion, I would like to draw attention to what we can do for those veteran soldiers still with us so that we do not disrespect the sacrifices made by those we have lost. We must provide full funding for veterans' health care. Every year the President sends forward his budget proposal to

Congress, and every year we go through the same struggle to get VA health care the money it needs to adequately serve its veteran patients. We must change the way funds are allocated so that all of our veterans are guaranteed the care they so clearly deserve.

I want the 115,000 veterans who choose to make Hawaii their home to be assured that they will receive the services they have earned. The nearly 18,000 veterans who avail themselves of VA health care on Oahu, the Big Island, Kauai, and Maui should not have to worry if resources for doctors and nurses will materialize next year. The reservists and guardsmen who are deployed for the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan also must receive the care they need upon their return. And the fact that a whole population of veterans is denied care because VA does not have adequate funding is shameful.

Memorial Day is a day of both sorrow and joy. We mourn those we have lost in battle, and we celebrate the freedoms we currently enjoy thanks to those brave individuals. As we gather together over the long weekend to celebrate this important holiday, let us make sure to take a moment to remember and thank those who lost their lives in order to secure our futures. Then, for the rest of our tenure in Congress, let us not waiver from the commitments made to these brave men and women in terms of programs, services and benefits.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, Memorial Day is a day of mixed emotions: sorrow for the families whose sons and daughters have given their lives for our country, coupled with universal pride in the great Americans who for generations and particularly today teach us the full meaning of service and sacrifice. The courage and bravery of our young men and women fighting overseas continues to inspire all of us, and indeed inspire the free world and those yearning for freedom.

America's fallen soldiers shouldered a responsibility greater than any of us will ever know. Their families, their units, and their nation depended on them, and they answered the call of duty with selflessness and devotion. Our soldiers did not shirk from this responsibility, and all the uncertainty, danger and honor that came with it. Their families remember them as special sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, and cherished friends. Their Nation remembers them as special citizens. Grown men will touch their names etched on granite walls and will today weep for fallen comrades who gave their lives so that others can live.

In this time of war, and in memory of our fallen heroes, we must be mindful to do everything in our power to keep our troops safe as they keep us safe. We must do better to take care of their families, who sacrifice in ways too many to count.

While we can never repay our Nation's debt to families who have made the ultimate sacrifice, we must always remember the legacy of their fallen sons and daughters: a safer and freer world. On this Memorial Day, I believe it appropriate to take a small step in that direction by recognizing in the record those exceptional individuals from Massachusetts who this year gave their lives, and earned the eternal gratitude of the American people:

Arredondo, Alexander S., Lance Corporal, USMC, 25-Aug-2004—Randolph, MA; Connolly, David, S., Major, USA, 6-Apr-2005—Boston, MA; Cunningham, Darren J., Staff Sergeant, USA, 30-Sep-2004—Groton, MA; Depew, Cory R., Private, USA, 04-Jan-2005—Haverhill, MA; Desiato, Travis R., Lance Corporal, USMC, 15-Nov-2004—Bedford, MA; Farrar Jr., Andrew K., Sergeant, USMC, 28-Jan-2005—Weymouth, MA; Fontecchio, Elia P., Gunnery Sergeant, USMC, 04-Aug-2004—Milford, MA; Fuller, Travis J., 1st Lieutenant, USMC, 26-Jan-2005—Granville, MA; Gavriel, Dimitrios, Lance Corporal, USMC, 18-Nov-2004—Haverhill, MA; Johnson, Markus J., Private, USA, 1st Class, 01-Jun-2004—Springfield, MA; Lusk, Joe F. II, Captain, USA, 21-Jan-2005—Framingham, MA; Moore, James M., Colonel, USA, 29-November-2004—Peabody, MA; Oliveira, Brian, Corporal, USMC, 25-Oct-2004—Raynham, MA; Ouellette, Brian J., Petty Officer, 1st Class, USN, 29-May-2004—Needham, MA; Palacios, Gabriel T., Specialist, USA, 21-Jan-2004—Lynn, MA; Schamberg, Kurt D., Sergeant, USA, 20-May-2005—Melrose, MA; Sullivan, Christopher J., Captain, USA, 18-Jan-2005—Princeton, MA; Vangyzen IV, John J., Lance Corporal, USMC, 05-Jul-2004—Bristol, MA; and Zabierek, Andrew J., Lance Corporal, USMC, 21-May-2004—Chelmsford, MA.

THE PASSING OF A GREAT AMERICAN SOLDIER—ARMY COLONEL DAVID H. HACKWORTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I was very sad to learn that Colonel Hackworth had died on May 4, 2005, in Tijuana, Mexico.

Tijuana is the place where Colonel Hackworth chose to make his last stand. He went there to fight one last battle. He had a particularly deadly form of cancer that spread. He went to Mexico, hoping for a miracle with an experimental drug treatment program.

Just before leaving his home in Connecticut for the last time in January 2005, he sent me one final message:

Give Senator Grassley my best. Have run out of conventional options re my cancer. Got until March to find a solution. Off to Mexico to see if we can't out Gee this monster. I am not sweating my final orders from Headquarters. It has been a fun ride. Plan on being planted in Arlington.

"Out-Geeing the G" was one of Colonel Hackworth's favorite expressions.

He invented the term while leading troops in combat during the Vietnam war. He told his troops that they could beat the Viet Cong by using the guerrillas' own mobile, hit-and-run tactics.

"We are going to do what they do but just do it better," he said. "We out-gee the G."

"Out-geeing the G" was the heart and soul of Colonel Hackworth's brand of soldiering.

Sadly, Colonel Hackworth was not able to "out-Gee" the enemy this time.

Colonel Hackworth began his military career just up the coast from Tijuana—in Santa Monica, CA.

At the age of 10, after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, he worked as a shoeshine boy at a military post there where a group of soldiers adopted him as a mascot. They had a special uniform made for him to wear. Both his parents died before his first birthday.

At this point in his life, Colonel Hackworth said: "I knew my destiny. Nothing would be better than to be a soldier."

You can't utter the name David Hackworth without also saying the word soldier in the same breath. He was a "soldier's" soldier.

He was a soldier from the day he put on that special uniform in Santa Monica to the moment he died. He may have taken off his uniform after publicly denouncing the Vietnam war on national TV in 1971, but he continued to soldier until the very end of his life.

I know that Colonel Hackworth was a highly respected combat veteran. I know he distinguished himself as a leader of troops in the field in Korea and Vietnam. I know he was awarded a large number of combat decorations for valor.

Colonel Hackworth was a true American hero.

But I do not want to leave my colleagues with a false impression.

I did not know Colonel Hackworth when he was fighting wars and winning medals for valor. I have only read about that part of his life. I did not meet him until much later—after he had started a new career.

I came to know Colonel Hackworth after he became a reporter and began covering the Pentagon.

He was still a soldier all right—but a different kind of soldier.

Colonel Hackworth had become what I would call a brave-hearted soldier for the truth.

When I met him, he had taken off his uniform. He was fighting a different kind of war. He was a soldier in civilian clothes. But he still had a mission. He wanted to bring truth, justice, and accountability to military headquarters—the Pentagon. He wanted to shed some light on what he perceived as gross incompetence and corruption on the part of some senior officers.

He was a contributing editor and reporter for Newsweek Magazine and syndicated columnist.

Colonel Hackworth and I shared a small piece of common ground—watchdogging the Pentagon.

From the moment when I was first elected to the Senate, I have worked